

**REVISED
MINUTES OF THE
EDUCATION INTERIM COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, April 20, 2005 – 8:00 a.m. – Room W135 House Building

Members Present:

Sen. Howard A. Stephenson, Senate Chair
Rep. Margaret Dayton, House Chair
Sen. Patrice M. Arent
Sen. Chris Buttars
Sen. Karen Hale
Sen. Mark B. Madsen
Sen. David L. Thomas
Rep. Ron Bigelow
Rep. Duane E. Bourdeaux
Rep. John Dougall
Rep. James A. Ferrin
Rep. James R. Gowans
Rep. David L. Hogue
Rep. Kory M. Holdaway

Rep. Gregory H. Hughes
Rep. Bradley T. Johnson
Rep. Carol Spackman Moss
Rep. Merlynn T. Newbold
Rep. LaWanna "Lou" Shurtliff
Rep. Stephen H. Urquhart

Members Absent:

Rep. LaVar Christensen

Staff Present:

Ms. Constance C. Steffen, Policy Analyst
Mr. Phillip V. Dean, Policy Analyst
Mr. Dee S Larsen, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Glenda S. Whitney, Legislative Secretary

Note: A list of others present and a copy of related materials can be found at www.le.utah.gov or by contacting the committee secretary, Glenda Whitney, at 538-1032. A recording of the meeting is available from the committee secretary.

1. Committee Business

Chair Dayton called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m. Rep. Christensen was excused from attending the meeting.

MOTION: Rep. Hogue moved to approve the minutes of the April 5, 2005 meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Hale, Sen. Madsen, Sen. Thomas, Rep. Bigelow, Rep. Dougall, Rep. Hughes, Rep. Johnson, Rep. Moss, Rep. Shurtliff, and Rep. Urquhart were absent for the vote.

2. U-PASS Accountability Plan

Chair Dayton noted that Utah law requires the State Board of Education to identify schools not achieving state-established acceptable levels of student performance in order to assist those schools in raising their student performance levels. In December 2004, the State Board of Education adopted the U-PASS Accountability Plan which establishes the criteria and process for measuring the performance of schools.

Supt. Patti Harrington, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, announced that the U.S. Department of Education will permit Utah to use a growth-based model like Massachusetts in measuring student performance as required by the federal No Child Left Behind law. The Department is considering approved the state's certification of multi-subject teachers.

Supt. Harrington briefly explained the process for measuring the performance of schools. Each public school in Utah will be identified as (a) Achieved State Level of Performance; or (b) Needs Assistance, Not Achieving State Level of Performance.

Ms. Judy Park, Director, Evaluation and Assessment, USOE (Utah State Office of Education), made a presentation, "U-PASS Accountability," and distributed a copy of the presentation. She gave an overview of the U-PASS legislation and the process used in developing the U-PASS Accountability Plan. She described the elements of the plan and how it will be implemented.

Supt. Harrington, Ms. Park, and Ms. Christine Kearl, Associate Superintendent, USOE, distributed and reviewed handouts, "Response to Increase in Achievement Gap Within Utah's Hispanic Population," "Utah Performance Assessment System for Students, U-PASS Accountability Plan," "Utah Performance Assessment System for Students, School Performance Report," "English Language Arts and Math CRT Student Proficiency Percentage," "Utah Public School Student Achievement," "School Matters - A Service of Standard and Poor's," and "U-PASS Definitions and Formulas."

Rep. Bourdeaux indicated his intentions of developing legislation specifying "N size" and other factors in determining whether a school meets state-established acceptable levels of performance.

Chair Dayton suggested revisiting Rep. Bourdeaux's proposed legislation at the November Education Interim Committee meeting.

Sen. Stephenson distributed and reviewed Utah Code Section 53A-3-602.5, which directs the State Board of Education in collaboration with the state's 40 school districts to develop a school performance report. Ms. Park noted that the U-PASS Accountability Plan report will be the first page of the school performance report required by law.

Ms. Kearl made a presentation, "Rewards and Sanctions." She discussed consequences for schools for achieving or not achieving state-established acceptable levels of performance.

3. Other Items / Adjourn

MOTION: Rep. Ferrin moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Dayton adjourned the meeting at 10:19 a.m.